Wooing of foreign tourists

288. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tourism delegations from Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and other Central Indian States had been sent abroad to UK, USA and other European countries during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 for soliciting and wooing foreign tourists to the tourist attractions in these States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the success achieved thereby?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The Ministry of Tourism does not sponsor tourism delegations from States/UTs overseas. The State Governments themselves send their own delegations to promote the tourism potential of their States.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Study on demand-supply scenario of the hotel rooms

289. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hotel Association of India is undertaking a study on the demand-supply scenario of the hotel rooms upto 2020 to help investment in this sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the current shortage of hotel rooms in the country and how far the study will help the industry to gear up and invest in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) The Hotel Association of India (HAI) in consultation with the Ministry of Tourism has initiated action to conduct a study *inter-alia* to assess the requirement of hotel rooms in major cities and major tourist centres in India.